

Town of Lincoln

Parks & Recreation Commission Monthly Meeting

May 11, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm

Members present;

Chairman John Sharkey, Steve Reynolds, Gary Stott, Joseph Goho and

Andrew Bruscini

1. Motion to accept minutes from April's meeting made by Joe Goho and seconded by Steve Reynolds. Passed 5-0

2. No Director's report

3. Commissioner's reports:

Quinville-

Joe Goho stated that Quinville is in good shape but did mention some profane graffiti on the playground, specifically on the backside of the stairs to the yellow slide.

All around the perimeter of the park and the basketball court there are a lot of leaves and debris present.

There is also a blue/green bench that is chipped and needs repainting.

Lime Acres-

For the record Steve Reynolds explained that he was not at last month's meeting due to a little league coaching responsibility.

Lime Acres Park is very busy. The Tennis Courts are being used. The park looks clean. The baseball field is good, no issues. Basketball court seems to be up and running fine. Batting cages are

up. No trash around the park.

John Sharkey commented that the only issue seems to be no dugouts for the back field. This field is used by many teams including; LMS softball team, Minor Little League baseball and AAU Lincoln baseball. This leads to parents on the bench and kids running around.

Steve R. stated that he thought dugouts were talked about last year and thought that a work order was done. Discussed that last summer and he thought they were in the works with Saylesville dug outs. Should look at this year's budget and ask again.

Andy Bruscini asked why after doing all the work on the front field that the back field wasn't done. John S. was told dugouts were not part of last year's project at the park. Gary S thinks this should be a priority. John S stated this has been a problem for years, well before the LMS girls played here. It is something that can be done. John S stated it should be something simple, roof with fencing around it Ask for it again this year.

Gary S. asked if there was any talk about lighting the basketball courts. No one heard anything about that. Steve R. spoke of the neighborhood abutting the park being disturbed by the lighting. Neighbors can easily see through to the park from surrounding neighborhood in fall and winter. Also there are safety concerns as a gathering spot and too secluded for lights.

Saylesville-

Gary Stott stated Barney's Pond is very busy with fishing. Problem with parking at the house across the street seems to be resolved.

Arnold Park has lots of activity and looks great. Sullivan Field benches (dugouts) are not resolved yet.

John S. stated that it won't be resolved until after the Softball varsity season is finished. The plan is to put new benches in and move them back and move the fence back.

Andy S asked if it was possible to put a surface in to finish the job. That should have been included in the pricing.

Fairlawn-

Andy Bruscini stated the Baseball Field at Fairlawn Park is overgrown. The infield and warning track have both filled in with grass just like Albion Park.

The mess at the basketball court is not the Town's it is Kishfy's and they will take care of it (Kishfy).

The Town did replace the broken swing. Andy S. talked to the police. The Police department, namely Chief and Joe Conti, have walked through the park. They removed a bench that was being used as a gathering area. Andy S. told them that there are still dogs allowed on the field. The Chief told him to call the Police Department. Andy S. stated he isn't going to call the Police for dogs. He thinks the Police should be driving by or the Dog Officer at night. He also stated that there are still drug problems over there. There are still issues with drug trash and paraphernalia.

Discussion about the need for cameras in the parks.

Steve R. commented that cameras won't stop people from walking their dogs on the field. Can try to educate owners about keeping

dog's off fields, but with the amount of money the Town has invested in our parks then they should invest in surveillance cameras to maintain them. Town has a lot to lose at these fields like Lonsdale Park. Signage is fine but still need to catch them. In the parks that are secluded the Police cannot see but if we see them on camera then we can use that. That will help. You can't have a cop there 24/7. Video helped solve cases of damage to fields in other cities and towns.

Andy B. stated that the trash from 4th of July fireworks will be terrible. He stated he has talked to the Police Chief about all of these matters.

Lonsdale-

John Picozzi forwarded these points to the Chair, John Sharkey.

Lonsdale Park- Looks great. Commended the Chase Farm people & Mr. Flynn for the work they did on the planted area around the flag pole prior to opening day. Also put a new flag up on the flagpole at Sam Moore field.

He has been in touch with the Lonsdale councilman, Bruce Ogni, in regards to the other detailed presentation done a few months ago.

Lonsdale Park sprinkler systems are not working properly due to low water pressure. This is a big problem for both fields, Hien and Sam Moore. We have been talking to the town to fix this issue-existing system isn't working properly which leads to wasting water. The sprinkler's don't spray they stream out so in the summer the fields will have circles where it is greener in areas that the water is reaching but dry in rest of field.

John S. stated that unfortunately the water line comes out of the school so the Town has to talk to the School Department to fix the problem. This holds things up and will be lots of work to fix this.

Albion-

There is a problem that we have talked about in the past and have shown pictures of the grass in the warning track. There are also bare spots, doesn't think the sprinkler system is working properly. Field isn't getting any fertilization or aeration at the end of the year.

Albion Park looks good other than that. The Town has done a nice job prepping the field before games. Need to do more work more often to fix the fields.

Talks about lack of manpower and when will the Town hire for the summer.

Going back to Saylesville District, Gary S. forgot to mention that the sign at Gateway Park needs to be cleaned. Its worse than ever, filthy and an eye sore.

4. Old Business

Chet Nichol's dugouts job has been completed by Mr. Benbenek. They look good.

Andy S. stated that the lights at Chet Nichols are out. Has been a problem that they have known about but they keep putting it off. Talked about this issue since last fall.

Dangerous for players at night- can't see very well.

*The Commission states this is a safety issue.

*Need dog signs at every park.

5. New Business

Field Assignments- inspections needed for jogging trails and parks.

Saylesville Park issue with cars parking near basketball court.

Gary S. Stated years ago this was a big issue. This Commission wanted to open up this area for parking. We asked for removal of a few trees and stone dust to be put down. Would provide easier access for the police to monitor and drive in. Now people are just jumping the curb and parking anywhere. Gary showed pictures of cars parked all over. Could be done in house- don't hire anyone.

Town did drop off infield mix for the fields and stone dust for the batting cages.

No director to speak about the summer programs.

Motion to adjourn made by Gary S and seconded by Andy B.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm